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Official Diary

Wednesday, 26 December 1951

Informed Mr. Gleason of the NSC Secretariat that Tab A to SE 20 was being distributed.

Mr. Gleason informed me that a Steering Committee meeting would be held on December 27 to consider the Defense draft relating to US policy in Southeast Asia. Informed Messrs. Dulles and [ ] and in the afternoon attended a briefing for Mr. Dulles on this paper. [ ] of OPC also attended this briefing.

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Discussed with [ ] at lunchtime the adequacy of our intelligence as a basis for the Southeast Asia paper.

Discussed with Messrs. Douglass and [ ] recent indications respecting Indochina. Although there is obviously a build-up there, there is good reason to believe that the timing is not immediate. [ ] feels that Burma is still the place to watch and I tend to agree with him.

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[ ]

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Mr. Wolf indicated that Mr. Dulles had agreed that Mr. Houston, as General Counsel, should attend PRC meetings but he desires to discuss this with Mr. Wisner.

I also suggested to Mr. Wolf that I would raise the question of Col. Edwards attending PRC meetings when we were discussing the agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Wisner called later in the day and stated that he desired, if possible, to avoid having an Assistant Directors' meeting next week.

Discussed with [ ] the USCIB item to which CIA and State had made objections at the last meeting. I undertook to prepare a redraft of [ ]'s paper which would satisfy CIA's objection. At his suggestion, I also called Polyzoides and we arranged to meet and discuss State's objections. Our position in this matter is that of a benevolent neutral.

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Dr. Andrews informed me that Glendenning of Treasury had requested a copy of SE 20 for his use on the Senior Staff and for the use of the Secretary of the Treasury. ONE approved. The specific paper is that on Korean policy. I authorized such dissemination orally and Mr. Dulles later concurred. The authorization is on an "eyes only" basis for Glendenning and the Secretary.

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